

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

November 1, 2022

Jennifer M. Granholm, Secretary
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave. S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20585

Pete Buttigieg, Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Deb Haaland, Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretaries Granholm, Buttigieg, and Haaland:

I write with grave concern regarding the looming diesel shortage as reported by the Energy Information Administration. Diesel fuel inventories in the U.S. have not been this low since 1951, and we find ourselves in this predicament as the country is approaching the high-demand winter season. Adding insult to injury, the current average diesel price of \$5.317 per gallon is 50 percent higher than it was this time of the year in 2021, and it is only expected to increase in the coming months.

The entire U.S. economy runs on diesel. Cheap and abundant diesel fuel allows us to power our container ships from overseas, move the trucks that collect goods at ports and distribute them to warehouses and stores, enable farmers who plow their land and grow our food, and help construction workers build public infrastructure and family homes. Oklahoma is home to so many who are dealing with the effects of this crisis firsthand, as it'll threaten the livelihood and stable jobs that some have worked for years to achieve.

This Administration has continuously put policies in place that diminish American energy independence, hinder our economy, and raise prices on hard-working Americans. From killing the Keystone XL pipeline and rejoining the Paris Climate Agreement to enacting an anti-fossil fuel agenda while simultaneously begging OPEC+ to produce more oil, this Administration has weakened our energy industry in every way. The American people cannot afford your disastrous policies any longer.

Less than one week ago, when asked what this Administration's plans are to lower energy costs, White House National Security Council Press Secretary John Kirby side-stepped and provided no meaningful answer. However, his answer made sure to mention that Joe Biden is "...doing what [he] can to help our European friends and partners who are also going to be facing a long, cold Winter." Americans are becoming poorer from crushing inflation, the country

is running out of diesel fuel, gas prices are starting to climb (again), and the Strategic Petroleum Reserve is at its lowest level since 1984. Yet the White House is thinking about Europe.

As our country barrels towards yet another energy crisis, Americans deserve to know what you plan to do. My constituents in Oklahoma are incredibly concerned with your ability to address the issues raised herein. I look forward to hearing an answer from your respective offices about this matter. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Markwayne Mullin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Markwayne Mullin
Member of Congress